

August 2016

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to First Grade! I hope you all are enjoying your summer and making many great memories. I am excited to be your child's teacher this year at Highland Park. This is my fourth year teaching first grade. I received my undergraduate degree from Eastern Connecticut State University in Elementary Education and History. I also completed my Masters degree in Reading and Literacy for grades PreK-6th.

I am really looking forward to this school year and working with you and your child. I have a real passion for reading and I hope to foster this love of reading within each student so they can flourish for a lifetime. First grade is such critical year and with your support at home I hope to make many gains with your child in reading, writing, and math. Most importantly, I want you all to feel welcomed into our classroom. I encourage parent volunteers and you are always welcome to contact me with any concerns and questions through e-mail or phone calls. I have a website with a link at the bottom of my e-mails. Here you will find copies of newsletters, pictures and other important information.

Lastly, students are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to school on a daily basis (be sure to bring one on the first day). In addition, I do inform the students that there will be no sharing of snacks due to allergies. Healthy snacks can be: fruit, veggies, yogurt, applesauce (or other fruit cups) raisins, granola bars, crackers, cheese sticks, goldfish, animal crackers and pretzels. I do look for and appreciate snack donations during the school year so I can help provide snacks for students who forget.

Enjoy these last few weeks of summer! I look forward to meeting all of you on the first day of school!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Ruff

